

WYCOMBE RECOVER TO WIN AWAY IN COUNTIES CUP

Sports Mail Special Report

CORINTHIAN Leaguers Wokingham Town, the famous Amateur Cup fighters of four years ago, fought a grim rearguard action against Wycombe Wanderers in a Berks and Bucks Senior Cup third round tie. But Wycombe, recovering from an anxious start, went on to win 4-0.

Wokingham: Merryweather; Mc-Minn, Harris; Cook, Clacey, Gale; Lunn, Fielder, Whittam, Lambert, Cox.

Wycombe Wanderers: Brown; Beck, Atkins; Thomas, Fisher, D. Worley; Rockell, L. Worley, Holmes, Bates, Tomlin.

Referee: E. A. Ruckley.

A fierce wind, billowing straight into Wokingham's goal, made ball control difficult for both teams.

Wanderers, keeping the ball too close at first, failed to take advantage of this, and Worley shot wide following a dangerous Tomlin corner.

Every Wycombe player, with the exception of goalkeeper Ken Brown, moved into the Wokingham half during one hectic spell but no one could find a winning shot.

Only a wonderful diving save by Merryweather at the feet of Holmes prevented a certain goal.

STRONG BREEZE

So strong was the breeze that Brown easily reached the opposing penalty area with his clearances.

Wokingham's close marking flurried Wycombe into making mistakes and shooting too quickly. But Wokingham were lucky when skipper Harris cleared Tomlin's shot off the goal line only for Bates to blaze the rebound wide.

The referee annoyed Wokingham fans by awarding a penalty after 24 minutes for hands after Tomlin had centred. Bates easily scored from the spot.

This goal steadied Wycombe and after 30 minutes Len Worley collected a pass from Holmes, spotted Merryweather out of his goal, and lobbed the ball over his head for a clever goal.

Former Wycombe player Lambert was prominent in spirited Wokingham attacks but Thomas and Fisher defended well in a very cool Wycombe defence.

Wanderers had a real let off when winger Luddon missed an open goal but right on half-time HOLMES scored a third after beating three men.

Half-time: Wokingham Town 0, Wycombe Wanderers 3.

With the wind in their faces, Wanderers tightened up their game in the second half and played with more assurance.

Wokingham, on the other hand, had difficulty in keeping the ball on the ground, and their attacks broke down against a cool Wycombe defence. Chief Wokingham wrecker was centre half Fisher, who seldom put a foot wrong.

Holmes clipped the ball wide of a post after Bates had outwitted the home defence, and then Lunn hammered the ball wide with a good chance of scoring.

CLEVER WANDERING

The clever wandering of Holmes taxed Wokingham's defence to the limit, and after he had combined with Rockell on the left wing, BATES netted from close range after 65 minutes.

Gallant Wokingham kept on pressing and gave the Wycombe defence some harassing moments as they tried for a consolation goal. But Wycombe kept the home forwards at long range, and Brown was very safe in goal.

RESULT:

WOKINGHAM 0
WYCOMBE 4